Approved For Release 2008/09/05 : CIA-RDP80-00810A006400630009-6

CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T NOFORN [redacted] 25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO. [redacted]

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 19 April 1955

SUBJECT New-Type Tanks on the Zeithain Training Grounds

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

[redacted]

On 18 February 1955, 6 T-54 (?) tanks [redacted] practiced driving at the Zeithain training grounds. It was noted that the tanks were able to make sharp turns at a high speed. The tanks were described as follows: 25X1

Chassis: The axle of the drive wheel, as well as that of the idler wheel, were in line with the upper edge of the bogie wheels. Therefore, the tracks slightly slanted toward the bogie wheels.

Tank hull: The upper edge of the slanting front plate projected approximately 10 x15 cm and, seen from the front, covered the circular track of the turret. The driver's hatch was located in the horizontal hull cover on the left side in front of the turret. The projecting upper edge of the front plate was about 30 to 35 cm from the circular track of the turret.

Turret: On the left front of the turret below the gun mantle was an oval opening covered by bulletproof glass. The gun mantle was surrounded by a quadrangular piece of black tarpaulin-like cloth. The turret was provided with two hatches.

Armament: The gun barrel projected considerably beyond the front of the tank. The gun had no muzzle brake.

Other features: A searchlight was mounted on the left side of the projecting upper edge of the front plate. One fuel tank each was located approximately above the last bogie wheel on either side of the tank. Several clasps, presumably to hold the tarpaulin, were seen at the rear of the turret.

CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T [redacted] 25X1

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| STATE | | NAVY | | NSRB | | DISTRIBUTION | | | | | |
| ARMY | | AIR | | FBI | | | | | | | |

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[redacted] 25X1



[redacted] Comment. This is the first information on the high mobility of the new tank (T-54?), although it had been repeatedly reported that the speed of the new tank exceeded that of a T-54. The fuel tanks on either side at the rear of the vehicle and the fact that the sloping front plate projected 10 to 15 cm beyond the tank hull and thus protected the circular track of 25X1

[redacted] 25X1



[redacted] 25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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25X1

On 18 February 1955, 6 T-54 (?) tanks [redacted] practiced driving at the Zeithain training grounds. It was noted that the tanks were able to make sharp turns at a high speed. The tanks were described as follows:

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Chassis: The axle of the drive wheel, as well as that of the idler wheel, were in line with the upper edge of the bogie wheels. Therefore, the tracks slightly slanted toward the bogie wheels.

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Turret: On the left front [redacted] of the turret below the gun mantle was an oval opening [redacted] covered by bullet-proof glass. The gun mantle was surrounded by a quadrangular piece of black tarpaulin-like cloth. The turret was provided with two hatches.

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CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

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[redacted] 25X1



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[redacted] 25X1



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